Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

One of my favourite duties each year is to announce the new College Student Leaders. After much deliberation and soul searching I would like to announce our 2015 College Leaders: (In no particular order).

Anna Matthews, Keely Hughes, Kate Doherty, Courtney Claridge, Hannah Medland, Ashton Darracott, Chelsea Hill, Jarrod Shackell, Abbey Le Busque, Jake Fallis, Frazer Johnson, Brianna Green, Nicole McKinney, Tamica Smith, Michael Lynch, Brianna Heeley, Lola Perry, Mel Bateman, Olivia Kite, Olivia McKenna, Jennifer Kerr, Harley Heppell, Tahli Grant, Drew Blanchard.

We are very proud to have these young people lead the student body next year and if their first meeting is any indication, it will be an enthusiastic and active year. I would also like to make mention of the 11 students who missed out on being appointed and to assure them that they were worthy applicants and their dignity in receiving some disappointing news did not go unnoticed. Thank you to all these young people and to Chris Brown for his countless hours of input into the preparation and process.

This morning we congratulated Alex Bielby on receiving a Queensland Police Service Appreciation Certificate for his work with the Police during the Nambour Show. Alex was commended on his community spirit. Well done Alex.

During this week we have conducted the last of the interviews for new staff at the college in 2015. We still have some final discernment to make in the areas of English, SOSE and RE but we pleased to announce that we have employed for next year: Claire White (Maths), who will replace Kym Dawkins on maternity leave, Henning Kenkerken (Maths, Biology), Michael Crockford (Chemistry, Sciences, and RE) and Megan Anning (History, SOR, and English). These new staff members will join the other five new members employed earlier this year. Our last duty is to employ a permanent replacement for Jo Davey, who left mid-year, and an additional English teacher.

There are only three weeks left and this is the time for all students to knuckle down in their studies as they complete their final assessment pieces for the year. It always important to finish well, even if there were a few hiccups on the way. Working hard at the end of the year is a great way to set yourself up for the next year of study. I will be particularly interested in the Year 11 and 10 results and these students will set the scene for our new senior year in 2015. As I peruse the reports I will certainly be looking for evidence of improvement and value added data.

This time next week we will farewell our Year 12 students at the Graduation and Farewell Assembly. This is always a wonderful occasion and even if you are not a Year 12 parent, you are welcome to attend this event. It will commence at 9.30am and be completed by 11.00am. The Farewell Mass will be celebrated the previous night at 6.30pm and again I encourage parents and students, other than Year 12, to attend, celebrate with Eucharist and add to the special ethos that is so much part of St. John’s.

This Farewell Mass is especially important, as sadly it may be the last Eucharistic Celebration that some of our young people attend for a while. I sincerely hope that it isn’t but it is a reality for many young Catholics. The significance for the community of St. John’s is that we celebrated Eucharist on their arrival and we celebrate with Christ, as the centre of our life, on their departure. We hope that St. John’s has blessed them with love and care and that the Gospel values will be embedded in their life and actions for many years to come.

“We can, of course, shrug our shoulders and ignore this experience of transcendence. We can devote ourselves to the concrete world, our work, our activity…….One goes about one’s business, reads, gets angry, does one’s work, does research, achieves something, earns money. And in a final, perhaps unadmitted despair such a person must admit that the whole as a whole makes no sense, and that one does well to suppress the question about the meaning of it all and to reject it as an unanswerable and hence meaningless question.” (Foundations of Christian Faith, 33.)

Meanwhile, Year 11 students will begin their exam week next Tuesday and I wish them all the best. We always finish off their year with a couple of days of QCS test practice so that we can gather data for their most important final year of school in 2015.

Good luck to all as we approach these final weeks of 2014 and prepare ourselves for 2015.

Chris Gold
Principal
St John’s College, Nambour

Year 5s, 2014, from Stella Maris and St Joseph’s will visit St John’s College to experience a day at our secondary school. Stella Maris visit on Monday 1 December and St Joseph’s on Tuesday 2 December. This cohort will be starting Year 7 in 2016.

Year 5s will arrive by bus with their teachers at approximately 9.30am and will be at St John’s till 1.00pm. Students are asked to bring their morning tea or they can make a purchase from our new tuckshop. A lunch of sausage on bread and a juice will be provided for them.

St John’s College is a Catholic secondary learning community established by the Good Samaritan Sisters in 1940. St John’s is well known for excellence in academic pursuits, dramatic and musical presentations, sporting success in rugby, netball, cross country and athletics and community service programs. Some unique features of the school are its pastoral care program, inclusiveness of students with disabilities, staff - student relationships, energetic Parents & Friends
Congratulations to all our surfing students. The Semi Finals and Finals were conducted on Thursday in our final session for the year.

The surf was awesome with some intense competition. There were plenty of spectators that came along to enjoy the action.

Our successful competitors for 2014:

Girls Champion - Anastasia Kriz
Boys Champion - Tom Berryman
Most Improved Girl - Ella Bury
Most Improved Boy - Winton Brook

Our Expression Session was lots of fun with plenty of awards. Notably Mr Calvo got the biggest wipeout.

Once again thank you to the dads and Mr Jones who attend each week without fail.

Thank you to Mr Nankervis and Sharon Brady for providing breakfast for the morning.

A special thank you to our instructors; Brad, Jeff and Natasha for bringing a huge improvement to our students skill level.

Thank you to Mr Fenwick and his team of runners. Miss McCaul for that much needed coffee after a long morning on the beach. Amy Ring who helps inspire the girls with her enthusiasm. Thanks also to Mr Calvo and Mr Brown and their support for the program.

In particular thank you to the parents who make the early morning drop off each week.

Finally, thank you to the students who's enthusiasm, politeness and positivity make it a very worthwhile part of our schools sport program.

Rod Kriz
IMPACT YOUTH
FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST
When: SUNDAY 16th November
WHERE: St Joseph’s Community Centre
Time: after 7am & 9am Mass
Sausage on bread       Bacon & egg roll
Hamburgers
Support our local youth team
End of Year Mass

Thursday
20th November

6.30 pm in the MPC

Celebrant: Father Graham Gatehouse
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2014

The Christmas Appeal aims to provide much needed help from practical assistance to food hampers, emotional support, toys and gifts for children, individuals and families so they too can experience the joy of Christmas. Your donation will assist people doing it tough this Christmas.

Each PC group have been given an Family to Adopt.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2014 Gift Suggestions
Last year, with your generous support, the St Vincent de Paul Conference in Nambour was able to give out more than 70 Christmas Hampers, bringing the joy of Christmas to those who otherwise would have had a very unhappy day. This year the Good Samaritan Youth Conference (made up of St John’s and St Joseph’s students, parent and staff) are coordinating the Hampers in collaboration with Nambour. The cost of each hamper this year will be between $100-$200.

We are appealing for your help again this year.

Hampers will be distributed on the 18th December from St Joseph’s Primary School Hall.
There are also envelopes available for those who would prefer to donate cash. Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible. Please include your name and address if you wish a receipt.

If you care to donate items other than food here are some ideas.

Food: Juice, soft drink, savoury and sweet biscuits, nuts, chips, long life custard, tin fruit, minces pies, Christmas puddings, bonbons, gift bags, tin fruit.

For men: Toiletry packs (containing razors, shaving cream, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste), clothing vouchers, shoes, thongs, bags/backpacks and gift cards (e.g. Target, JB HiFi, Kmart, Big W, Cotton On)

For children and teens: Plush toys, rattles, clothes, building blocks, books, art and craft supplies, board games, sporting equipment, movie vouchers and gift cards (e.g. Kmart, Big W, Cotton On, Typo, Smiggle, Rebel Sport)

For women: Toiletry packs (containing shower gel, shampoo/conditioner, body lotion, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste), make up kits, bags, clothing vouchers, gift cards (e.g. Kmart, Big W, Cotton On, Body Shop)

Please contact Tracey Langford (0417 071 168) if you would like to help with the hampers.
Thank you all so much.

“Be kind and love, for love is your first gift to the poor”

Blessed Rosalie Rendu 1786-1856
ARTSPACE

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Parent asks little Johnny...

“Why haven’t you brought home your artwork?”

If you are a parent of a current year 8 student and they haven’t brought home all their beautiful artworks to show you...it means their work is waiting for collection in the art room.

They have been waiting for 4 weeks, and we can’t store them any longer.

Please encourage your student to come collect, as there are many masterpieces waiting to be framed.

Here is a sample of some of the work created during the 2014 Year 8 Visual Art Rotation.
UNIFORM SHOP and TEXT HIRE

PLEASE NOTE NEW OPENING HOURS

WEDNESDAY 8.00am - 3.45pm and
THURSDAY 8.00am - 3.45pm

Contact Details

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http://on.fb.me/12GGNI0

Student Absentee Line: 5444 9299